

Course Proposal Summary

Ongoing proposal information

Updating freshman seminar for Fall 2025 and Spring 2026 (Exploring Diversity, Democracy, and Social Issues in STEM Education)

Irene Duranczyk

As an Associate Professor in the College of Education and Human Development, STEM Education Center, Professor Duranczyk has been collaborating with global partners in Chita, Russia, Kazakhstan, and various universities in Northeastern China for the past 7 years. She has participated in Collaborating Online International Learning (COIL) seminars at UMN and is a certified Intercultural Development Inventory (IDI) administrator. Professor Duranczyk balances the depth and breadth of engaging undergraduates from three countries as they explore a common global concern while she integrates her thirty-plus years of STEM teaching. (1/14/25 KB)

Fall 2024 - Spring 2025

Irene Duranczyk

Curriculum and Instruction

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Curriculum contact name

Katherine Boulware

Curriculum contact email address

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Basic Course Information

Effective term

Fall 2025

PeopleSoft course ID

826989

Effective date

Sep 2, 2025

Active/inactive status

Active

Appear in course catalog?

Yes

Institution

UMNTC

Campus

Twin Cities

College

TCED - College of Education and Human
Development

Career

Undergraduate

Department

Curriculum & Instruction (11197)

Course subject code

CI

Course number

1906

Course name

Exploring Diversity, Democracy, and Social Issues in STEM Education

Course name for transcript

Issues in STEM Education

Course description

GenZ, yes, there is a framework for exploring Diversity, Democracy, and Social Justice issues within STEM education. You can pursue a degree in STEM education and have an impact in our democracy and/or world affairs. This seminar will explore ways diversity, democracy, and social issues intersect and live in STEM education. We will engage in project-based activities that increase our knowledge and skill in exploring social values and STEM education. We will create opportunities to showcase our products while we synthesize STEM skills with a systematic inquiry of our world. This course is designed to engage you and other domestic and international students in multiple ways of thinking and doing for the expressed purpose of (1) infusing a global, multicultural, and anti-racist perspective in STEM education and (2) explore present-day challenges from a STEM education and social justice perspective. You will have exposure and experiences with international students, international-based research, and STEM simulations. This course will prepare you to embrace intercultural competency and its impact on your self-awareness, interactions in social settings, success in university course work, engagement in research projects, and STEM education career choices.

Course Enrollment and Student Planning

Grading basis

A-F - A-F Grade Basis

Typically offered term(s)

Every Fall & Spring

Typical meeting pattern

Tuesday-Thursday: 02:30 PM - 04:25 PM

Require consent to enroll

No Special Consent Required

Require consent to drop

No Special Consent Required

Are you proposing changes to prerequisites or corequisites?

No

Assign existing prerequisite or corequisite

undefined - undefined

Do you need to define a new prerequisite or corequisite?

No

Can students enroll in more than one section of this course in the same term?

No

Prerequisites and Corequisites (Crookston only)

Equivalencies and Cross-listings

Are you proposing changes to equivalencies or cross-listings?

No

Is this course equivalent to any other courses?

No

Is this course cross-listed with any other courses?

No

Credits, Instructional Time, and Repeats

Credits

Minimum credits

3

Maximum credits

3

Instructional time (hours)

Minimum instructional
time

3

Academic progress units

Academic progress units

3

Financial aid units

Financial aid units

3

Is this course repeatable?

No

What is the maximum number of times a student
could earn credit for taking this course?

1

What is the maximum number of credits a student
can earn from this course?

3

Course Characteristics

Course attributes

FSEM - FR SEMINAR (Freshman Seminar)

Is this a topics course?

No

Will this course ever be offered online or
primarily online?

No

Is any portion of this course taught outside of the
United States?

No

Is this an honors course?

No

Is this a freshman seminar?

Yes

If this course uses community-engaged learning
(CEL) instructional strategies, indicate up to 5
CEL values.

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Components

Code	Name
LEC	Lecture

Primary and Graded Component Details

Primary component	Graded component
Lecture	Lecture

Student Learning Outcomes (Undergraduate Crookston, Duluth, and Twin Cities only)

Learning outcome Engaging Diversity How will the instructor assess the students' learning related to this outcome? Instructor will assess learning outcome with presentation of a project infusing international engagement with STEM educational and career goals.	How will this outcome be addressed in the course? Thinking ethically about important challenges facing our society and world. Fostering a stronger sense of our roles as historical agents.
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Topic Details

Course Dependencies and Curricular Impacts

Course Proposal Details

Liberal and General Education

Are you proposing this course to meet a general or liberal education requirement?

Yes

Proposed Twin Cities Liberal Education Core

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Proposed Twin Cities Liberal Education
Designated Theme

Technology and Society

This course is approved as a Core, effective

-

This course is approved as a Designated Theme,
effective

-

Approved Twin Cities Liberal Education Requirement(s)

-

Describe how the course meets Liberal Education Designated Theme course criteria

This seminar will explore ways diversity, democracy, and social issues intersect and live in STEM education. Domestic and international students will engage in multiple ways of thinking and doing for the expressed purpose of (1) infusing a global, multicultural, and anti-racist perspective in STEM education and (2) explore present day challenges from a STEM education and social justice perspective

Are you proposing this course to meet the Writing Intensive requirement?

No

This course is approved as Writing Intensive

No

This course is approved as Writing Intensive,
effective

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Syllabus (All Rochester and Twin Cities Careers, Duluth 8xxx-Level)

Upload a syllabus from within the past 2 years

[CI 1906 -2025.docx](#)